

# Services for Visually Impaired

## What does this appropriation support?

Rehabilitation Services for the Blind (RSB) provides services to blind consumers that affords the consumer with an opportunity to identify appropriate living and employment goals and attain the skill levels necessary to achieve those goals.

## What is the statutory base?

State statutes: RSMo. 8.051, 8.700-8.745, 207.010, 207.020, 209.010, 209.020, 178.160-178.180;  
Federal laws: Randolph Shepard Act as amended through 1974, 34 CFR 395, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended by Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1992-Title VII-Part B and Chapter 2, Workforce Investment Act of 1998-Title IV, Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1998

## Is this a federally mandated program?

Yes, except for funding of Prevention of Blindness and reader services. See above for the listed federal statutes.

## Are there federal matching requirements?

Vocational Rehabilitation funding is 78.7% federal and 21.3% state (Blind Pension funds in RSB's case). Independent Living Rehabilitation funding is 90% federal and 10% state (Blind Pension funds in RSB's case). OBS funding is 90% federal and 10% state (Blind Pension funds in RSB's case).

## What are the expenditures?

	FY 2003 Actual	FY 2004 Actual	FY 2005 Actual	FY 2006 Planned
GR	\$1,192,538	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL	\$5,013,375	\$5,083,450	\$5,084,123	\$5,084,732
OTHER	\$132,046	\$1,631,984	\$1,641,498	\$1,649,914
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,337,959</b>	<b>\$6,715,434</b>	<b>\$6,725,621</b>	<b>\$6,734,646</b>

## What are the sources of other funds?

Family Services Donated Funds and Blind Pension

## Efficiency and Effectiveness Measure:

Employment Outcomes for Blind/ Visually Impaired		
Year	Actual Employment Outcomes	Projected Employment Outcomes
FFY 03	17.8%	N/A
FFY 04	18.0%	16.4%
FFY 05	18.1%	20.0%
FFY 06		19.0%
FFY 07		19.0%
FFY 08		19.0%

## Who is eligible for these services?

Blind Enterprise Program: For blind consumers that meet certain visual impairment criteria, RSB staff provide technical assistance in the establishment of vending facilities and supervisory and management services for facilities on an ongoing basis.

Prevention of Blindness: For the medically indigent, RSB arranges for and provides eye care.

Independent Living Rehabilitation – Children: Educational advocacy, parent education referral and resource information and counseling services are offered to families with visually impaired children ages 0-14. Also, RSB provides consultation to schools serving blind and visually impaired children.

Readers for the Blind: Up to \$500 per year to meet the cost of readers service is provided to eligible blind individuals attending eligible post-secondary institutions.

Vocational Rehabilitation: Services necessary to enable a blind or visually impaired individual to maintain or obtain employment, such as job placement, travel, equipment, etc., are provided by the RSB staff or are purchased.

Independent Living Rehabilitation – Adult: Services required by blind consumers to maintain their maximum level of independence are provided. Services include training in communication, personal management, homemaking skills, providing equipment, etc.

Independent Living Rehabilitation– Other Blind: Provides eye exams, peer counseling, low vision aids, training in orientation and mobility, communication and other activities of daily living for blind and visually impaired individuals over age 55.

## How many people are served?

Independent Living Consumers Rehabilitated		
FFY	Actual Number of Consumers Rehabilitated	Actual Number of Independent Living Consumers Rehabilitated
2003	342	915
2004	237	952
2005	242	1,037